Statement of
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On behalf of the New Agenda Coalition
(Introducing NPT/CONF.2010/WP.8)

before
Main Committee I

Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to take the floor today on behalf of the seven members of the New Agenda Coalition; Brazil, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden and my own country, Egypt, to introduce our working paper (working paper 8) to the 2010 NPT Review Conference. It is important to highlight that this working paper draws upon all NAC working papers submitted during this entire Review Cycle (WP. 15 of Prep Com I, WP. 26 of Prep Com II and WP. 11 of Prep Com III), which in turn remain valid and current.

The NAC paper before us contains a wide range of concrete and practical measures to advance the cause of nuclear disarmament with a view to achieving the goal of a world free from nuclear weapons as enshrined in the NPT. The paper inter alia calls upon nuclear-weapon States to pursue military doctrines compatible with the goals and objectives of the Treaty, and for steps to reduce the operational readiness of nuclear weapons. It also calls for universal adherence to the Treaty, the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, including in the Middle East, the provision of legally-binding security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States, steps to ban the production and to ensure the irreversible and verifiable removal of fissile material from nuclear weapons, as well as further action on transparency, accountability and confidence-building measures.

Mr. Chairman,

It is our hope that the concise and pragmatic approach adopted by the Coalition in formulating the recommendations and elements in our working paper will help enhance its utility. The fact that it encompasses the views of a cross regional grouping of countries should also serve to maximize the possibility of fostering consensus around the elements and language it contains. We stand ready to work with all delegations and to engage in any discussions during the coming period towards that end and towards a successful 2010 NPT Review Conference.

Thank You.